FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

BRITISH TOPICS.

THE PRESENT PHASE OF THE ALABAMA QUESTION-MR. SUMNER'S HEALTH-MR. HUGHES AND HIS CONSTITUENTS-TROUBLES OF AN AMERICAN HUMORIST.

[FROM THE REGULAR COURESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] LONDON, Sept. 25 .- After thinking over the whole matter for some days, Englishmen are of the same mind about the Alabama award as at first, and I don't think I need add much to what I have before said upon that subject. They think fifteen millions of dollars a good deal of money to pay, but they are going to pay it, and they are profoundly content to find that terrible Alabama question at last settled. Spite of the angry criticisms upon the award in some of the Tory papers, there is not an omnibus-lead of Englishmen in the Kingdom who would unsettle it if they could. Probably their own Arbitrator's assent to the decision against the Alabama itself is a surprise to most men; at any rate, it shuts the mouths of sil but a few who stood ready to impeach the fairness of the Tribunal, and who have hinted, more or less openly, at bribery. The Alabama was the principal ship in question, and not even a Tory newspaper will venture to suggest that Sir Alexander Cockburn was bribed or bribable, and as his natural ileaning to England was overcome by the evidence against her, it is hardly worth while to accuse anybody else of deciding from less just and conclusive motives. There is a studied effort in the press to show that the judgment implies no moral cul-pability on the part of Eugland, and that in fact there would have been no judgment at all against her if she had not consented to be tried by the New Rules. Why, and, under what kind of moral pressure, she consented to be tried by those Rules they do not care to consider In a word, the verdict is such, and its reception here is such, that if we had obtained it without going through those amazing diplomatic performances in the first half of the year, we might be, as the Eaglish are, glad of a But it will be long before any American can forget the months of humiliation which his Government made him live though. We certainly may thank the English for he courtesy, or whatever it is, which prevents them from reminding us of it too often.

A week in London has considerably improved Mr.

Summer's health. The vexing question of his nomina-tion for Governor having been settled by the acquire-cence of the Committee in his withdrawal, he felt himself for the first time able to enjoy his vacation and to get some benefit out of it. He was eager for pletures and books. His first visit was to the National Galiery his second to the British Museum. The choicest treasures of the latter are not open to the public, or at any rate are not shown without special application and permission. But Mr. Sumner's name proved a password as soon as it was known, and the heads of some of the departinents devoted themselves to showing him the inner rooms and the wonders they contain. When Mr. Samner was lu England, fifteen years ago, the list of his friends included almost every eminent man in public life. Many of them, such as Lord Lyndhurst and Lord Brougham, are dead; the rest are out of town, for this happens to be the season when London is nearly empty, and it is more nearly empty now than I bave known it in any former year. Everybody i still in Sectiand or on the Continent. But as soon as Mr. Summer's arrival became known letters began to arrive; among them a cordial one from Mr. Bright, and another from the Duke of Argyll, with an invitation to visit the Duke's scat at Inverary. At the Athensum Mr. Summer was made an honorary member, and at that club he met a lew of the stray notabilities who by chance were in London. Sir Charles Ditke called on him, and he was, I think, the only Englishman whose invitation even to dis ter Mr. Summer has found himself able to accept. He starts to-morrow for Paris, spending one night on the road at Bonlogne. His present plan, so far as he has any plan, is to stay two or three weeks in Paris, and to return to London by way of the Hague, where he will visit his old triend Mr. Motley, who still resides in that quiet, not to say sleepy, capitat. If he goes on as well as he has began I see no reason why he may not return in November, in fairly good health, and take his seat in the Scente at the opening of next session. The White Star Line, which seems to be pretty wide awake in such matters, has asked him to accept a state-room in one of their steamers for the return voyage. Mr. Sum per replied, in a spirit which shows his just sense of the delicate relations between public men and public compa nies on whose interests they may have to legislate, that he would sail in the Baltic on the 14th of November, but that he should claim the privilege of paying his pas

sage—like other people.

Mr. Haghes is once more in difficulties with his consiftuents and apparently the cause at Frome is much the same with that which drove him from Lambeth. Lambeth, the small traders and shopkeepers resented his advocacy of cooperation, and his efforts to put a stop to Sanday trading, and when another Liberal presented himself as a candidate for Mr. Hughes's seat at the last Frome was then pliched upon as a place to which he might conveniently betake himself, the borough being securely Liberal and not so large as to be enably expensive. He was duly returned, and until this year I have not heard of any dissatisfaction on the part of his constituents with his services. But this week he went down, as members are expected to do in the vacation, to make them a speech, and it proved not so easy as was anticipated. The insjority and better part of the voters of Frome have the good sense to like Mr. Hughes, and to stand by him; but a noisy minority got into the meeting and refused to listen, or to let other people listen to his speech. Some dissent has been expressed from his views in favor of maintaining a State Church; for Mr. Hughes, though Liberal, stands by the Establishment. But the real trouble was caused by the publicans, who hate him because of his support of the Licensing bill, which closes their houses at 11 o'clock. There was, I am told, rather a pretty row, and the report in the papers led me to suppose that Mr. Hughes could scarcely be heard at all, and that the Dissenters made some of the noise. But to-day I hear that he had said what he wanted to before the meeting broke up, and that those who broke it up were simply a lot of rowdies paid by the public-house keepers. Whether this is likely to affect Mr. Hughes's hold on his seat, I can't say, but he is a man so useful in Parliament, and so high authority on a class of questions on which Parliament is atways in need of help, that if he has to leave Frome. some other seat is sure to be found for him. Our friend Mark Twain has written a letter to this

week's Speciator conveying to the world some further explanation of the way in which Mr. John Camden Hotten, English publisher, deems himself entitled to deal, and does in fact deal with the books of American authors. Mr. Hotten has republished in England several of Mark Twain's books, of course without paying anything for them. Against this the author might be expected to protest, but does not, because there is no law to give effect to his protest. What he does protest against is Mr. Hotten's adding to the books some half dozen chapters, not written by Mr. Twain, but by Mr. Hotten, and causing or allowing the wide world to suppose that they are of the same origin as the rest of the book. On the strength of these spurious chapters, Mr. Hotten copyrights the whole. All the books, moreover, are unrevised and uncorrected, and all the while Mr. Twain has an engagement with another English publishing house, Messrs. Routledge & Sons, who publish genuine editions, and pay Mr. Twain a copyright thereupon. "If, therefore," concludes Mark, my books are to disseminate either suffering or crime among readers of our language, I would ever so much rather they did it through that house, and then I could contemplate the spectacle calmly as the dividends came in." The whole letter is in the writer's drollest vein, worth reading for its own sake, not to mention the fact that one rather likes on high moral grounds to see Mr. John Camden Hotten put in the pillory.

FRENCH POLITICS.

REPUBLICANISM OF AN ORLEANIST-LABOULATE ON THE SITUATION AND PARTIES OF THE COUNTRY-THE OPTION IN ALSACE AND LORRAINE—CASE OF EDMOND ABOUT. [FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

Paris, Sept. 19.—Casimir Périer, Deputy to the Assembly and recently member of M. Thiers's Cabinet, has just published a letter, in which he says:

net, has just published a letter, in which he says:

"I am of those who remained attached to constitutional monarchy as long as constitutional monarchy as long as constitutional monarchy seemed to them possible on the only basis fit we made it acceptable and durable, that is, harmony among the monarchical partices and between the two branches of the house of Bourbon sanctioned by the assent of the nation. I neither desire nor feel the need to enlarge here on all that has happened within two years to destroy reasonable hope of a monarchical solution companible with the interests and rights of the nation and the honor of persons. I am explaining how I have been led to declare myself distinctly and without mental reservation for the republican form, the only one at present that seems to me destined to preserve France from an amarchical crisis, the certain prelude to a despotism of some sort, to say nothing of exterior dangers. I firmly hope that the day is not distant when a parliamentary majority, in agreement with the filustrious man to whom France owes such grattude, will be able to constitute a government that rests on maittutions."

This clear and frank, expression by an eminent, !!!e-

long Orientist, of sentiments that ere steadily griding ground among Conservatives whose preferences and good understanding, no disturbing influence whatever to the last

prejudices have hitherto been for a constitutional mon-archy, gathers special significance from the occasion of its publication. M. Périer lately received, as guests at his country seat, the Count of Paris and some other members of the Orleans family. As no doubt was entertained of the sincerity and solidity of the siready Center was a sign, even proof of the conversion of the guests. It was conceived that the Count of Paris, a more modern man than his uncles, might be enough a man of his time to heed its signs, sink the Pretender to rise the patriot, and by his individual act almost assure the establishment of a solid Conservative Government for his country. After his renunciation nothing would be left to the as yet unconverted upper bourgeoisie and constitutional monarchists but to unite with the Conservative Republi-cans, a union against the strength of which factious Bonapartists, Bourbons, and ranting Reds, separately or in partial cealition, would struggle in valu. Here was mething to tempt the young man's high ambition; and why should not be, to whom the partisans of his royal claims attribute remarkable mental endowment and culture, and the highest moral qualities, have enough sense and patriotism to see the situation and secept the only solution of it, as do older men, friends and counselors, and ancient supporters-men like Périer and Thiers and Remusat 1 It was noticed, too, in further confirmation of the possible hope of such action on his part, that for more than a year now there have been unrefuted rumors of dissent on certain points between him and his uncle l'Aumale, the seeming political director of the family. Finally, some commentators lay stress on the negative fact that the Orleanist Pretender having done or said, in the political way and publicly, in the last two years, absolutely nothing, he has neither done nor said any-thing to preclude his now doing something of this sort. Taking occasion of these comments on the visit to write the letter, M. Périer uses it in their respect only to say that he has nothing to say of the Prince's political opinions, but profits by it to set forth his own in the satisfac tary manner illustrated by the quotation above. It is hardly necessary to add that the Count or raris and his uncles characteristically let slip this latest in a long series of fine opportunities to tell their fellow-Prenchinen what definitely are their political opinions.

Mr. El. Laboulaye begins in the Debats, to-day, his refully claborated series of studies on "The Situation and the Parties of France." The general spirit and drift of them may be guessed from his prefatory letter to the editor. Here are one or two of its indicative passages:

of them may be guessed from his prefatory letter to the editor. Here are one or two of its indicative passages:

"It seems to me that the first duty of a citizen, eminently of a deputy, at the present time, is to ascertain the needs of France and the state of opinion; to seek after the best means for transforming into a regular government a provisional condition that cannot be greatly prolonged; to direct attention to the problems involved in the organization of the conservative republications that are more numerous and complex than is generally supposed. For 59 years now we have been rained by illusions; it is high time for us to turn away from chimeras and seriously search after the truth, unless we mean to recommence the long series of our deceptions and misfortunes. These are the serious questions I propose to study." "But nothing is further from my thoughts than to present a new political system to the public, What I would offer for the use of my fellow-citizens, to aid them in founding a durable Government and ending with the revolutionary spirit, is the experience of free naions. Monarcinato crepabilican, all parties live on the past—that is, on memories, regrets, grudges, prejudices." "Whether we like or do not like it, it is by democracy that the world will be saved. Who is it that utters this suspicious phrase I A Christian, priest, and martyr—Father Capiter. Others may lack the political faith of the Rev. Father Capiter, but every one should be aware that it is now too late to choose. By democracy we must live or die, I would like to show that the organization of a democrate government is a problem that has been solved in America and elsewhere."

This expression of opinion also gathers significance

This expression of opinion also gathers significance rom the time and other extrinsic circumstances of its utterance. Always a Liberal in a reforming, never in a revolutionary spirit, M. Laboulaye, kindred with Eras nus, not with Lather, was no Republican under the Em-pire, is no decirinaire Republican now. More regardful f things than labels, his objective is the same now as hen-liberal institutions; but in working for them he fully realizes and gladly admits that the change from the Imperialism to the Republicanism-dangerous, and, to his tranquil nature, peculiarly painful in the operatingencinently favors the attainment.

The time fixed by treaty within which the people of

the annexed provinces may have their option between becoming German subjects or remaining French citizens erminates with this month. The options of the Alsa tians and Lorrainers are more numerous than was expected-perhaps than was to be expected. It may be that the practically serious obstacles opposed to the are to be laid to the account of the mere crowd of applicants, for whose mulitude the Prussian authorities had not calculated, and to whose extra pressian official formally could not if it would hastly adapt itself. It may be, too, that the belief, nearly universal with the French scinsitive and firitable, not to say passions and the present scinsitive and irritable, not to say passions for option to a hard literal construction, and impedes the practical working of its spirit with ingentonsly calculated enterly, has no support in fair consideration of facts. The unquestionable points in this matter of option are—that the number of young men of Alsace and Lorraine who wish to remain French is very large; that the process of getting this wish for maily recorded and its exercise legally secured costs them a great deal of time and trouble; that the right of conquest being triumphantly restored to the international code of latest civilization, is bitterly felt as a wrong by some Frenchmen forced to rest in the amnaced provinces, and by all Frenchmen outside of them.

A fresh point pricking into those on the French side of the question has provoked he wirritation here in these last days. The celebrated author Edmond About went out one day inst fornich to his house and hots all Saverne, in Alsace, 20 miles of so from Strasburg. After more than a week's residence there, his house one light was surrounded by a military force, and he next morning was extracted there in a prison room, the same, was continued to facilities since the revolution of such and the recomment of the week. The only explanation of the week is residued at the provision of the week. The only explanation of the week is residued at the provision of the week. The only explanation of the week is residued at the provision of the week. The only explanation of the week is seen the sensation of the week. The only explanation of the consideration of the week. The only explanation of the week is residued to the varied and all their functions, and the matters y prompt legalization of their declarations of nationality general election, Mr. Hughes's friends thought and impedes the practical working of its spirit it best for him to abandon the contest. with ingeniously calculated cruelty, has no support in

genuine. Mr. Edmond About bought and built up his pretty home place in Saverne years ago. Born and being French to the tip of his pen, he became Alsatian by choice of residence at Saverne, which was plucked and harried early in the war. It is not very surprising that he should have had a certain warmth of patriotic and personal feeling, or that he should have expressed it in series of articles—particularly in one of them—printed in the foullicton of a Paris newspaper in the Autumn of 1871. Honorable persons who think they know do this morning in public print formally assert that M. About has been, in this quite singularly soletsa manner, seized and imprisoned by Prussian authorities for that Paris publication.

W. H. H.

SPAIN.

THE THRONE SPEECH OF KING AMADEUS.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. MADRID, Sept. 15 .- King Amadeus this mornng opened the session of the Cortes, for the first time, with the pomp and ceremony which belongs to the regu lar Spanish royal etiquette. A large crowd gathered in the open space where the Calle Areval runs into the Carrera San Geronimo, saluted his arrival with loud and apparently cordial cheering. As he entered the Chamber of Deputies, he received another, more decorous but not less hearty, welcome from the assembled Congressmen and from the bevy of fair Madrilenas who had invaded the floor in deflance of law and custom, ompelling the gallant Deputies to give up their chairs and to stand during the whole ceremony. The King cast his first glance toward the President's box, where his young Queen was seated. and saluted her with a smile and a wave of his whitegloved hand. He walked forward to the tribune and read his speech in a voice sufficiently clear and firm, but with a strongly-marked Italian accent. He was voeiferously applauded for his references to the relations of his Government with the Papal See and the Island of Cuba. There is nothing remarkable in seeing a Spanish audience applaud an announcement of a policy of extermination for rebellious colonists, but I own I was somewhat surprised to see all these good Catholics so well pleased at their King's account of his troubles with the Holy Father. The whole bouse was delightfully unanimous, as the Republicans, as usual on all ceremonial occasions, were absent, as well as the monarchical opposition. The following are the material portions of the

Royal speech : SENATORS AND DEPUTIES: I am filled with the deepest satisfaction on seeing myself in your midst on the occasion of this solemn and constitutional ceremony. On entering within the sovereign precincts of this palace, where I am awaited by you, chosen by the nation to be its law-givers, I recall that I also am the elect of the Constituent Cortes; I reflect that the will of the nation was the forerunner of my own right; I see that in me and in you is symbolized the alliance of the Monarchy with the People, and, born of these memories and these thoughts, there spring up in my heart sentiments of affection for this noble land, of love for its institutions and et confidence in its future, and at the same time I cherish the deeply rooted resolve to tread with you path of liberty, full of obstacles and borthis dered by abysses, but at whose end is found the glory and the consolidation of dynastics, and the moral calm and material prosperity of nations. I feel also a gevuine satisfaction in making known to This clear and frank, expression by an eminent, life- you that our relations with the Governments of other nations rest in the heartiest friendship and most cordial

sincere regret, I have to say that in this my desires have not been realized, all the efforts made to this end by my tertained of the sincerity and solidity of the already pronounced Republican convictions of the host, it was believed that the visit to a member of the Left But this does not prevent my still hoping to find a remedy for a situation which grieves me, for I trust that the wisdom and prudence of the Sovereign Pontiff may at last persuade him that the sincerity of my feelings of veneration for his person and profound respect for his spiritual power are only equaled by the firmness of my resolution to live up to the facts and ideas of my time, and to maintain the institutions established in the plenttude of right by the sovereign will of the Spanish nation. I have passed over a large portion of the territory of Spain, and visited many of its towns, for I desired to know and appreciate the situation and the necessities of the country which has intrusted me with the guidan of its destinies. I return filled with the tokens of affection with which Spaniards ever prove the devotion they profess, and inspired by a noble pride at being the ruler of a loyal, honest, and laborious people—submissive to the discipline of law, cherishing freedom and loving order, and needing only for the restoration of their strength and recovery from their afflictions a period of rest, of good administration, of legality, and of justice. Happily, without recourse to extraordinary measures, through the action of the authorities and the force of law, and thanks to the valor and discipline of our army, and the patriotic cooperation of the Volunteers of Liberty, the peace so needful to the nation has been almost completely restored throughout the country, and, although a few rebellious bands, finding no shelter in the villages, and steadily pursued by our valiant troops, still roam in Catalonia and the Asturias, the Carlist insurrection, which at first took such grave and menacing proportions, has ceased to afflict the Northern provinces, whose simple inhabitants, moved by deceitful councils, made fanatic by criminal incitation, and often led to the field by ministers of the Lord, unmindoften led to the field by ministers of the Lord, unmineral of their station and faithless to their holy charge, it is to be hoped that now, deprived or their makenes, they may submissively yield to the present order of things until they come to know and chorish it, and that they may no more disturb their own peace and that of the rest of Spain, but quietly look after their own interests, which are only to be harmed by their own indiscretion, and enjoying the privilege of their own special provincial laws, which have never exased to be respected, and which through their own fault alone do they run any risk of forfeiting.

which through their own fault alone do they run any risk of forfeiting.

High reasons of policy, agreeing with my personal feelings, have once more counseled the exercise of clemency towards the rebels; but not to such an extent as to lenve rebellion unpunished and society without protection. As it often happens that a sort of impunity grows out of the very rigor of the laws, it is better to seek a middle course, and establish penalties which, while insuring the chastisement of offenses and augmenting the guarantees of order, will at the same time coincide with the necessities of the age and conform to its social circumstances. Inspired by these fileas, my Government will present an appropriate built in the early days of the session.

The colonial question has been considered by my Government with the solicitous attention is needed.

days of the session.

The colonial question has been considered by my Government with the solicitous attention it merits. In Caba, measures have been taken in obscience to the unanimous views and demands of its inhabitants, to overcome the financial crists and regulate the administration and government of the province. These measures will be perfected by bills which will be brought before you at the proper time. The reform of the administration, the giving of vigor and fixedness to the action of the Government, and the causing of justice to be everywhere observed by all, are the proper methods to inspire the island with confidence, to restore tranquility, and to attain its pacification. I am confident that by such means, and added by the fidelity and heroism of the army and navy, the resolution of the volunteers, and the patriotism of the inhabitants, the criminal plans of those who seek to impair our interrity by lacerating the bosom of the country, may soon be brought to naught.

Already the war, which for four years has desolated and ensanguined that lovely province of Spain, is only kept up by a limited number of insurgents; and for its complete suppression my Government is resolved to act with all decision, dispatching whatever resources may be necessary and as many soldiers as may be required in order that through the force of our arms, our cause may prevail and our right triumph. Then—when the contest shall be over and the honor of Spain safe from for Cuba will have come, and these concessions will be to longer be attributable to our feebleness, but will be the e session. mial question has been considered by my Gov-vith the solicitous attention it merits. In Caba,

peneeful Antilia, where the experimental transparence of all reforms leads to the hope of the safe realization of all those that may be found necessary to perfect its political and administrative organization.

The frequent disturbances to which public order is subject, and the conditions controlling the existence of the modern social system, render the maintenance of standing armies indispensable; but public opinion demands that the service of arms should be obligatory on all citizens, and not an unmerited misfortune or an oddous discrimination for the luckiess. My Government will present to you a bid for the abolition of conscription, the perfection of our military organization, the augmentation of our army, the diminution of the term of service, and the amelioration of the condition of our soldiers.

Such are the plans entertained by my Government in the relation, and to be made the subject of your deliberting of the condition.

spiration of truth and spread its transforming influence throughout the world." Its immediate object is to teach young people some art of self-support, or to raise those who have already some practical occupation to its higher forms and better remuneration. For this purpose it has forms and better remnneration. For this purpose it has established schools for telegraphy, photography, mechanical, architectural and artistic drawing of all kinds; modelfug in clay, engraving and painting. It has a class in phonography and stenography. It has a free night school of science, in which all branches of mathematics, theoretical and practical mechanics, organic and analytical chemistry are taught, with an excellent laboratory at the service of the pupils. Even literary culture in Eaglish, and its proper use in speaking and writing are not neglected. There are classes formed for oratory and debate, and lectures in English literature and in elecution. There were admitted to these various schools and classes during the past year 2,236 pupils. Beside this specific and practical instruction given entirely free, the public has free access to one of the largest reading-rooms in this country. It is open from \$\frac{1}{2}\$ a. m. to 10 p. m., and 277 newspapers and periodicals, for ign and domestic, are open to inspection. A library of more than 10,000 volumes is likewise thrown open to the free use of the visitors. All of these departments are carried on at an expense of about \$50,000 a year. The income is chiefly de., ved from rents of parts of the building, all of which ought to be devoted to the departments of instruction and to the library; but the demands on the resources of this institution are greater than the supply. There are often 10 applicants for one seat in a class, especially in the useful arts, which cannot be enlarged beyond the present limits. Hundreds are turned away every year for want of sufficient accommodation. established schools for telegraphy, photography, me for want of sufficient accomm

SYSTEMATIC TRAVELERS.

Thomas Cook, the English traveler, is now in this city with a party of tourists on their way round the world. For many years Mr. Cook has been well known in Europe as a manager of excursions from one end of that country to the other, but only recently has he extended his field of travel to this and other countries. Mr. Cook takes the entire control of the excursion, accompanies the party, pays all hotel and travel ing bills, takes charge of baggage, checks it, and sees to its transportation, and, in short, with him rests the en. tire responsibility of the excursion. The tourist is furl dished by him with a number of checks or coupons good for a single meal or lodging, as the case may be, and arrangement has been made whereby these checks are received from the tourist at the hotel at which he is stopping, and are thence forwarded to Mr. Cook for payment. The hotels at which these checks are good comprise a list of one or two of the principal hotels in all the chief cities of the world. The party now in this city consists of eight, besides the manager; they crossed the Atlantic on the stesmer Oceanic of the White Star Line, and will remain here till Monday, when they depart for Ningara Falls, Chicago, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco. The party will be increased by the addition of at least two in this city and two in Chicago. The cost to the tourists of the complete trip around the world, including hotel bills, traveling, and other necessary expenses, is \$2,000 each. Mr. Cook soon intends to establish an enterprise in this country similar to that in England, whereay tourists may take a trip from any par- of America to any other part either of America or the Old World, entirely free from the anxiety and vexations invariably experienced by persons traveling alone. ceived from the tourist at the hotel at which he is stop-

Guizot, age 85, lately attended an art exhibition and saw a beautifully sculptured Venus. The showman, with a view to flatter the old statesman and author, told him that the arrist who made the Venus was over 80 years of age. "What a memory he must possess!" answered the venerable Frenchman-Freuch to the last.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRY.

RICE CULTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA. THE INDUSTRY PARALYZED BY THE WAR-MODES OF CULTIVATION-THE RICE-BIRD ITS

GREATEST ENEMY.
[FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] WILMINGTON, Sept. 22 .- The North Carolina rice fields, comprising the richest lands in the State, and capable of producing from 500,000 to 1,000,000 bushels of grain a year, are all covered with reeds and bushes, their ditches filled with mud, their dykes rotted away. and rice is no longer a staple product or an article of export. Thirty years ago the rice fields of the Cape Fear River produced a crop of 200,000 bushels, the most of which was shipped to Northern cities, where it was cleaned and prepared for market. Fifteen years later, just before the breaking out of the war, the yield of the same region had in-creased to 506,000 bushels, and at that time there were several mills in Wilmington in which the rice was cleaned before it was sent coastwise to New-York or Baltimore, or shipped directly to foreign ports. In 1871, rice was planted on only one or two farms, and the entire crop was only 10,000 bushels-less than the amount consumed in the State-and this year three planters only have ventured to put in a crop of rice; and although the yield to the acre will be the greatest remembered by the oldest rice planter around Wilmington, the crop will not exceed 42,000 or 50,000 bushels.

THE RICE FIELDS ABANDONED. In no part of North Carolina have I seen so many painful evidences of the poverty and ruln brought upon the Southern people by the war as along the banks of the Cape Fear River from this city to and including Fayetteville. Here and there a brave man, whose spirit has not been entirely crushed by the reverses he has experienced, makes a faint but noble stand to prevent his once valuable plantation from relapsing into a wilderness of weeds, and, amid the ruin and decay that entirely surround him, still works on, hoping for a botter time to come. I formed the acquaintance of one such man, Col. McIlhenny, the other day, and he invited me to ride over to his plantation in Erunawick County over to his plantation in Brunswick County,

about four miles from the city. "I can show you little but ruins," he said, "but if you are interested in them, you will see the traces of

Crossing the river in a row-boat, the first two miles of the road lay over a causeway built across an island. Near the river are the workshops of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad, and some extensive turpentine distilleries, and beyond them lie 3,600 acres of endoned rice-flelds.

"It makes me heart-sick," said my friend, "when I look upon this scene of desolation and contrast it with what this island was before the war. This land, fermed from the rich deposits made by the river, is as fertile as any in the United States. Every acre of it was capable of producing, this year, from 40 to 60 bushels of rice. worth from \$3 to \$4 a bushel. You can at once see what an impetus such a crop would give to business; how much labor would be employed and how much capital would be brought here."

I did not understand why it was that such rich land should be lying idle while poorer uplands were cultivated.

"In the first place," he replied, "this country has become nearly depopulated. The planters on this river were, before the war, in afflaent circumstances. They owned large plantations, capable of producing immense crops, and they generally worked from 100 to 200 hands in the field. They lived in ease, with every comfort and every luxury. The war destroyed all this; the blacks were freed, and their entire system of labor overturned; r duced to poverty, they could not adapt themselves to the new order of things, and nearly all of the older men who were our leaders here before the war have died. In the second place, it requires capital to work these planta-tions. These lands cannot be farmed out in small patches like uplands, but must be worked in plantations of greater or less extent. You see that the fields have to be ditched, and the dykes must be kept up to keep the water out or in, as the crop may require. Soon after the war a prominent General asked me what I proposed to do. I told him that I thought of renting out plantation in small parcels to the negroes for a portion of the crop. I thought that we might establish a sort of English tenantry system, which would be profitable and pleasant all te to us and to the negroes. But I very soon became convinced that nothing of the kind was possible. Finally, if we had the capital we could not get the

NEGRO FIELD-LABOR-UNCERTAIN.

"There never was a time when agricultural labor was so caree in this part of the country as it is to-day. Emancipation deprived us of a great portion of our working force. The negroes left the plantations and went to the cities, where they still remain unless they have been tempted away by the promise of high wages to work on railroads or in the turpentine forests. Those who do remain cannot be relied upon or easily controlled. Take the cultivation of rice, for instance; there are certain seasons when to neglect it even for a day or two endangers the crop. The negroes know this perfectly well, but if they conclude to go off and register on a certain day or to attend public speaking, they are sure to go, no matter how critical a condition the crop may be in, even though the registration books are open for a month and of no avail, and if you threaten to discharge them you are likely to be indicted under the Euforcement act for obstructing the negroes in the exercise of the elective franchise or of intimidating them. You see we can't afford to stake our crops on the whims of the former

slaves." "Are the negroes naturally indolent?" I asked. "Yes, most of them are. Here and there you will find one who is industrious and thrifty. He very soon gets a homestead and is respected by the white people. But the majority of them are extremely improvident and care only if they have enough to eat to-day. They hang about the wharves in the city, and by working a few hours a day at odd jobs they earn enough to buy what corn and bacon they need. If they get sick or out of work you will see them coming about the plantations begging for help."

"Do the negroes object to working in the rice fields?" was my next question.

"Well, yes; they prefer other kinds of agricultural labor. It is wet and disagreeable."

"Is it particularly unhealthy !"
"Not for acclimated persons. If you were to come here to live you would very soon have the fever, especially if you did not avoid the night air. But the negroes rarely suffer. In Slavery times I worked a hundred hands, and my doctor's bill was less than \$100 a year. Now and then one has chills and fever-not very often." The Colonel also told me that the land through which we were riding was adapted to the production of cotton and some other "dry" crops as well as to rice. It is only neecssary to close the gates and keep out the water and excellent crops can be raised. Although some agricultural writers have said that northern grasses cannot be successfully raised south of Richmond, owing to the absence of snows to protect the roots, he believed that immense crops of clover, fred-top, and timothy might be produced on these abandoned rice lands. Indeed the experiment has already been tried on a small scale and has been very successful. The gates are opened in the Winter and the water allowed to flow over the fields long enough to afford the needed protection to the roots. My friend believed that the entire island over which we were passing might be converted into a farm for the rearing of blooded stock, and that if some Northern capitalists would take hold of it, a great deal of money might be made. It did really seem too bad to see so much valuable land lying idle. Having crossed the island, the stream on the further side was passed on a raft-like ferry-boat, which a negro pulled over the river by means of a cable stretched from shore to shore. As we came to the top of a little hill after leaving the ferry, I looked back over the island and could see but few indications of its great fertility, or few evidences of its former high state of cultivation. It looked like a broad, flat, swampy tract of land, overgrown with bushes, out of which arose here and there the dead trunk of a pine tree, which stood there like the skeleton of a departed forest. The last two miles of our

At one place I saw a long, low earthwork, extending through the woods, and was told that it was thrown up by Gen. Schofield during the night after his retreat from his first attack on Wilmington. About half a mile before reaching the plantation house we passed a fine row of negroes' quarters. It had been found necessary to separate the negroes to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, especially of those to which children are sub-ject. Col. McIlhenny combines manufacturing and gathering turpentine with the planting of rice. I did not visit his turpentine orchards, but he told me that he was working, this year, 80,000 boxes or enough to employ eight hands. Many gentlemen in this vicinity have found that the only way to make the lumber business cut and sawed. Ex-Senator Abbott has been one of the most successful of this class of men. At his place, he cuts and saws the lumber, and works it out ready to be put together into houses. Col. McIlhenny is engaged in building freight cars, box and flat. The trees are cut on

ride was over the sandy upland, and through a thinly-

wooded turpentine orchard.

his own plantation, sawed in his mill, made into cars, and sent down the river to this city on flats. All of the mechanical work is done by negroes. The foreman was one of the brightest and most intelligent mulattoes I have seen in the South. He was formerly owned by a gentleman who lived on an adjoining plantation, and who apprenticed him to a carpenter to learn the trade. He has entire charge of the shop, and conducts it to the entire satisfaction of his employer. The other men em ployed at mechanical work were generally intelligent and apparently skillful workmen. I saw, in the good reports I heard of the character and ability of these skilled workmen, one very encouraging sign which I think escapes the notice of many of the people of this State, While the field-hands were denounced as lazy, unthrifty, not to be relied on, the mechanics seemed to be as industrious and as skillful as white men of the same class. May we not hope, therefore, that as the colored people become educated and accustomed to freedom, the rising gencration if not the present one, will make a thrifty working class, and good, law-abiding citizens. I think that when we consider the training that the negro got as a slave, his ignorance and superstition, the sudden and radical change that was made in his social condition, in his relations to the white people; when we see the potitical power of this and other States taken out of the hands of the intelligent citizens and delivered over to men who (through no fault of their own, I admit) do not know how to read or write, and own no property; when we find the negroes, under the lead of a few unprincipled men from the North, arraying themselves in a solid mass against the white people, levying upon them unheard of taxes to enrich the carpet-baggers; when we see much of the legislation, both of Congress and of the State Legislatures, aimed at the liberties of the white people and intended to maintain the supremacy of the blacks; and flually, when we see a great political party doing all in its power to widen the breach between the two races, we have cause to wonder that there has been so little of violence, so much order and respect for

law in the South.

A CAROLINA RICE-FIELD. The rice-fields, 125 acres in extent, lay just below the mill. As the work on the crop for this year, except gathering it, was done, the water had been turned on and covered the ground to the depth of about 21 feet. A raised pathway extended through the fields, and on this we walked across. I had never seen a rice-field before, but it did not require experience to convince one of the value of the crop. The grain had been sown in drills, but so rank was the growth as almost to obliterate the but so rank was the growth as almost to obsterne the rows; nowhere could the water be seen, and a walking stick thrown upon the field in almost any direction would lodge among the heads. As we walked through it, my friend explained to me the method of cultivation. All along the side of the river is built an embankment, high enough to prevent the tide from flowing over it. At intervals in this embankment are openings to which is fitted a sort of lock with two gates, one opening cutward toward the river and the other opening inward toward the fiver and the other opening inward toward the field. The field is then thoroughly ditched, the trenches crossing each other at right angles. To prepare the land for planting, the inner gate before referred to is removed, and, as the tide falls, the water flowing out opens the outer gate. When the tide begins to rise the pressure of the water against this gate closes it, and no water flows in. Until within a few years, the land had all to be dag up with a spade, as, owing to the soft nature of the ground, animals could not be taken upon it. Recently, however, a peculiar shoe, which prevents the mules from miring, has been invented, so that the land is broken up with an ordinary plow. After the land has been thoroughly pulverized, the drills are made and the rice sown. The water is then return upon the field, and allowed to remain about two weeks, during which time the grain genniates. After this the water is drawn off, the grain genniates. After this the water is drawn off, the grain genniates. After this the water is drawn off, the grain genniates. After this the water is drawn off, the grain genniates. After this the water is drawn off, the grain genniates which the field is flooded for the last time, and the week repet on until the grain is ripe.

The greatest enemy of the crop is the rice-bird, which rows; nowhere could the water be seen, and a walking-

Her which the field is flooded for the last time, and the acter lept on until the grain is ripe.

The greatest enemy of the crop is the rice-bird, which just beginning to make its appearance. To keep these way, a gang of negroes have to remain in the fields all ay with guns and tin-pans; the powder that is used for as purpose forms no small item of expense. The crop gathered with a slekke, each man generally reaping ince-quarters of an acre a day. The plantation, like to shop, was in charge of a colored foreman, who timeled to the entire management of it. He employed tout 20 hands, each of when was paid from \$15 to \$20 a booth, house-rent, thewood, and a garden spot free, excess who work steadily and are communical can suport their families well on considerably less than this. port their families well on considerably less that The yield of the fields this year will be about 60 b

HONORS TO MR. SEWARD.

ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS. Immediately upon the opening of the United States Circuit Court, yesterday, Judge Benedict dis-charged the Jury till Monday, and proceeded to the United States District Court to take action with it upon the death of William H. Soward. There, both Judges being on the bench, United States District-Attorney Davis said, in substance; May it please the Court, the public prints of this morn-

ing have amounced the death, on yesterday, at his residence in Auburn, of the Hon. William H. Seward. It is deemed appropriate that, an occasion, the representative of the Govern-ment-the Government of which the deceased was for so many years a member-should, by mo tion, bring the event to the notice of the Court, and ask that the proceedings usual on such occasions be taken. I shall not occupy the time of the Court by any extended remarks. Mr. Seward was, perhaps, better known through his own country, for many years, as one of its greatest statesmen, its most active citizens, and, in public and private life, as a most worthy and descrying member of the community. I need not stand here to pronounce his eulogy or to trace his career. He entered on his profession, I think, in 1822, and very soon took a high position at the bar; and, during the entire period of his active professional career, he commanded the confidence of all of his clients, and en joyed the reputation which he succeeded in establishing by his extraordinary matural powers, and the abilities he displayed in all the cases which fell into his hands. He has made a reputation as a great lawyer. He entered that the proceedings usual on such occasions be taken. has made a reputation as a great lawyer. He entered ever elected to the United States Senate; and it is well known to all how soon after entering into public life, he became recognized for his ability, and assumed a position which soon placed him at the head of a great political party. Twice he filled the guideractorial chair of this State; and, in discharging the duties of that high office, won the respect and admiration, not only of his own party, but of every section of the country; and he commanded the attention of the whole community. Declining a nomination for a third term, he soon again entered the Senate of the United States, where he had for his compers such great men as Calhoun, Clay, Webster, and a number of others. A host of able and brilliant men sat with him in the Senate; and it is no disparagement to them to say that the industry and ability of Mr. Seward soon placed him on a footing with those great statesmen, certainly in the influence he exerted, if not in the talent he displayed. On the election of Mr. Lincoln he became Secretary of State; and it is but justice to him to say that he had all that position, during the history of the Government, no superior, and, perhaps, an equal. His life has been one of uniting industry in duty. No man in the country has produced a greater number of volumes from his pen than Mr. Seward; and i think I may say that his writings published, and to be published, will show a number of volumes as large as those that have come from the pen of any great writer. They are all readable, and they all reflect credit on him and on the country which mourns his death. Such a man has falien at the age of 72 years, crowned with honers and respected by all; and it is justly due that the Courts of the country, with which he was professionally connected, should without hesitation recognize the tribute due to his memory of the deceased, do now adjourn, and that an order to that effect be entered on the minutes.

D. R. Sillman, Joseph H. Choate, and k. D. Benedict spoke in support of Mr. Davis's motion.

Judge Blatchford said in sub very early into public life. He was the youngest Senator ever elected to the United States Senate; and it is well known to all how soon after entering into public

same reason.

Fiags were displayed at half-mast from the City Hall.

Flags were displayed at half mast upon the public buildings in Brooklyn yesterday, as a mark of respect to the late William H. Seward.

Lord and Lady Dufferin have been welcomed with all the customary honors, and more than the customary enthusiasm, in Canada. The City of Toronto was beautifully decorated on the occasion of their re-

GENERAL POLITICS.

AN OLD ABOLITIONIST ON GRANT AND GREELEY.

THE ONLY SURVIVING BROTHER OF JOHN BROWN TO THE COLORED MEN-HE PREFERS GREE-LEY TO GRANT, AND ADVISES ALL TO YOUR

FOR HIM. The following correspondence between sevral colored gentlemen of Brooklyn and the only surviving brother of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, will be read with interest. Mr. Brown, some time since, gave his reasons for supporting Mr. Greeley in an interview with a correspondent of The Cincinnati Commercial, a report of which was published in THE TRIBUNE : LETTER TO MR. BROWN.

BEOOKLYN, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1872. DEAR SIR: You can understand how we, as colored men, appreciate your views on questions that affect our people, as we gratefully remember your great labors in propose, as we gratering rememory your great moors in our behalf, as well as your close connection with the grandest of all martyrs who died for freedom. We, therefore, hope that you see no impropriety is our asking your opinion of the candidates presented to us in the Na-tional election. In the expectation of hearing from your soon, we remain your grateful and obedient servants,

tional election. In the expectation of hearing rots yes soon, we remain your grateful and obedient servants, MYLES L. NEWTON, THOMAS HETTON, and others. To Mr. Frederick Brown, Put-In-Bay Island, Ohio. MR. BROWN'S REPLY.

MYLES L. NEWTON, and others.

To Mr. Frederick Brown, Pulla-Bay Island, Ohio.

MR. BROWN'S REPLY.

PUTINEAY ILLAND, Ohio, Sept. 29, 1372.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 13th of Septemoer, in which you express a dealer to learn my opinion of the respective candidates presented for the suffrages of the people of the United States in the coning Presidential election, and by which of the two I think the inferests of the colored people will be best promoted, is now before me. My preference is decidedly in favor of Horace Greeley for these reasons: Born in obscurity and nurtured in poverty, he was early made acquainted with all the hardships and privations of the masses, and being thus trained he is in sympathy with those who travel the same way. Being thrown at an early age upon his own resources, unaded by frieads, amid all the amiculties that surrounded him, and the sooffs and sneers and discouragements of those in better circumstances, he has, by his perseverance and lemperate habits, worked himself up to the proad passition he may occupied worthy of the emiliation of all young men. Since he has been a journalist he has written more against the oppression of any people, black or white, than any other man in the nation—William Lloyd Garcison excepted the tending and uncompromising advocate of the aboutlon of expital punishment—a barbarous, heathenish, and unchristian practice—and has done much to amediorate the condition of the fundam tenders of our prisons and to secure better treatment from their keepers. In the Mary of the poor, young and old, ever giving them good advice and devising plans for their benefit. He has encouraged immigration, and affect from the intercention have been accomplished. He has above a limit and the condition of the workingman. No one has done more to encourage our arriculation, and meehands and the conditions of all classes bettered. In short, in all schemes for the working classes may be bessend and the oronity but the workingman. No one has done more to encourage our arriculation, an

without regard to their siness for the places. His autocodents show that his sympathies are rather with the
oppressor than the oppressed. With a full knowledge of
the crucities and oppression practiced upon the
Free State people of Kamsa during the Administration
of Franklin Pierce, Gen. Grant voted for
James Buchanan, who was nominated for the express
purpose of consumnating the validity Pierce had left
unimished. The old line anti-Slavery men, who constituted the life and soil of the Republican party, and
whose patriotism and talents will not suffer in comparison with men of any party, were not called to participate in the present Administration, but demagogues and
time-servers are the chosen advisers of the General Govermment. I object to Gen. Grant because of his efforts
to annex the Island of Sauto Domingo, contrary to the
usages and laws of nations, menacing a friendly power,
the Black Republic of Hayti, with armed supps of war;
carrying on negotiations with a robel chief for the sale of
his government, and presenting the treaty made with
him to the United States Senate for its natification.
Charles Saumer, true to his convictions of right and justice, and being alive to the honor of his enactry, stood
any mainfully in the Senate, exposed the vile transaction,
and resisted the President in his naurpanion of
treaty-making powers and the disgrace be was
endeavoring to bring upon the nation. This section of
Senator Summer brought down upon his head the vengeance of the President and his advisers, and the day
after the rejection of the treaty Mr. Mutley, our Minister
to Great Erstain, and the intimate friend of Mr. Sumner,
was recalled. Senator Summer, too, was driven from the
Chalimanship of the Senate Committee on Poreign Relations for no other reason than daring to bave an

arging all men to support Horace Greeley, Reconcilia-tion, and Reform. Very respectfully, your friend, FREDERICK BROWN. To Mesers. Myles I. Nowton, Thomas Hutton, and

A SUBJECT FOR HONEST REPUBLICANS TO CONTEMPLATE.

A SURJECT FOR HONEST REPUBLICAND TO CONTEMPLATE.

From The Springskild B publican.

We are not quite sure yet about its proportions. We don't know exactly how much territory it is going to inundate. All we know at present is, that it has come in, that it is probably big enough for all practical purposes, and that Simon Cameron is riding on the crest of it. Honest Republicans should note this last leadure of the business attentively. It is very suggestive, It ought to give them serious thoughts. It ought to moderate their rejoicings over "the victory." When they say that these October elections have sottled the Presidential contest in advance, they mean that the Pennsylvania election has settled it. Taken by themselves, the results in Onio and Indiana are not particularly encouraging to Gr., Grant's party. In the one State their majority has been wintled down by some thousands of votes, and they have lost a number of Congressmen; the other, so far as we can judge from the returns now at hand, has actually gone against them. If Buckalew had been election, or even if he had been besten by a narrow margin, there would have been reasons for expecting both Onio and Indiana to go for Greeley next month.

No, if anything has been decided, it is Pennsylvania that has decided it. If Gen. Grant is already refereively it is Pennsylvania that has asved pennsylvania. The means that he took to do it have been so funy and graphically described by that other loyal Grant man, Col. John W. Forney, that there is really nothing mors to be said. But they answered the parpose, simon went in to win, and he won. It was quite as much his fight as Gen. Grant's, the has*ecured another term in the Senate and a fresh lease of power as the political deciator of a great commonwealth. If our Republican party.

It must be admitted that a more dublous savior was nover raised up for the benefit of any political organization. He has become a great deliverance for you, and it wall not do to be fastidious in the case of such a benefactor. It would b

The Ladies' Fair for the benefit of St. Joseph's Home for the Aged opened on Menday at Irving Hall, with an address from the Hon. Wm. R. Roberta. sepn's Home for the Aged opened on Anondry at Iving Hall, with an address from the Hon. Wan R. Roberta, The hall presented a very attractive sight, with tastily arranged tables covered with rich and showy arioes. In the center is raised a pretry floral stand of everyreens. First on the right is the table of St. Patrick's Cathedral, nearly festooned in blue and white, where a choice collection of bronzes, shell-work, &c., offer a tempting sight to the visitor. St. Joseph's next, handsomely truomed, invites attention with its pretry stock of cushious, fancy wares, &c. St. Andrew's, a little beyond, displays a showy assortment of silver-ware, fancy objects, &c. St. Columbus's shows several rich and expensive articles, and a number of lesser things. The well-supplied tables of St. Francis Xavier's and St. Stephen's also offer attractions. The Home which thus Fair is designed to benefit was organized about six years ago, and was located in West Fitteenth-st., hear Seventh-ave. Some time since, he ever, it was found that the accommodations were too hand for the needs of the inmates, and a now and harger building was erected on the same site. This now contains ample room for abopersons. The present number of inmates is about 75. This institution has always heretofore been supported by private contributions, but the cost of the new structure burdens it with a dobt of \$5,000, and it now, for the first time, appeals to the public in order to lighten this membrance.